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**GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER AND FIRST LADY MARIA SHRIVER
CELEBRATE THE 75TH ANNUAL STATE CAPITOL CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING
ON DECEMBER 5**

**Event Features *The Insider's* Pat O'Brien as Master of Ceremonies with Special
Performance by Grammy-Winning Vocalist Anita Baker**

First-Ever Energy-Efficient Christmas Tree is Powered by Hydrogen Fuel Cell

Sacramento – Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and First Lady Maria Shriver kick-off the holiday season with the 75th annual State Capitol Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on the West Steps of the State Capitol on Tuesday, December 5, featuring *The Insider's* television personality **Pat O'Brien** as Master of Ceremonies and a special performance by Grammy-winning vocalist Anita Baker. For the first time in California's history, a small hydrogen fuel cell system will power the energy-efficient Christmas Tree throughout the holiday season.

"California leads the nation in energy efficiency standards. Once again, California is a pioneer in protecting our environment with this tree, which is powered entirely by a clean, zero-emission power source," said Governor Schwarzenegger.

The tree's energy-efficient, light-emitting diode (LED) bulbs will be powered exclusively by a small hydrogen fuel cell system, which allows the lights to shine without using any electricity from the power grid. The fuel cell is a clean, zero-emission energy source and introduces no pollution into the environment, only emitting pure water.

Festivities for the evening will begin at 4:30 p.m. The Sacramento Children's Choir, the Sacramento Theatre Company, the Sacramento Ballet Company, and the Sacramento Metropolitan Gospel Choir will perform throughout the evening.

"Maria and I wish every Californian a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. As we celebrate this holiday season, I hope we can all find a way to give. It does not have to be much. Even a little kindness can go a long way towards brightening the life of another, so let's reach out and give a helping hand," said Governor Schwarzenegger.

In the spirit of giving, Santa Claus and 30 community volunteers will be present at the second annual Holiday Toy Drive hosted by the California Service Corps. Attendees are encouraged to donate new, unwrapped toys or books for needy children in the Sacramento community. Items collected will be distributed by the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Sacramento and Volunteers of America.

The Governor and First Lady will be joined by nine year-old Chandler Guadagnin, of Chico, in hanging a special ornament and lighting the tree. Chandler began receiving services through

the Early Start Program at seven months of age and by 12 months, he was diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy. Today, he receives services through the Far Northern Regional Center. Chandler enjoys Challenger Baseball, and his parents, Doug and Shannon Guadagnin, restarted the Challenger League in Chico because of their son's love for the game. This year marks the 24th year a child with a developmental disability has been invited to participate in the State Capitol Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony.

Approximately 1,500 of the more than 2,000 ornaments on the tree were handcrafted by children and adults with developmental disabilities from five developmental centers, two state operated community facilities and artists from the state's 21 regional centers.

The 55-foot white fir tree donated by the U.S. Forest Service, Institute of Forest Genetics features more than 6,500 LED lights. The one-kilowatt fuel cell system has been provided by the California Stationary Fuel Cell Collaborative and was manufactured by Altergy Systems of Folsom. Fuel cell technology was originally invented for NASA to power Gemini space craft.

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